

LAURA RICHARDSON was elected to Congress in 2007, and has served on the Transportation and Infrastructure and Homeland Security Committees, serving as a key advocate for Long Beach's port and California's development of high speed rail.

Mr. Speaker, the aforementioned Members have served a combined 128 years in the House of Representatives. As the Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, I want to thank them for their commitment to our country, to California, and to their constituents who elected them. Together we've worked to ensure that America is a prosperous and safe society where everyone has equal opportunity. I've enjoyed being with them on this journey and wish them all of the best in the years ahead.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CONGRESSMAN LEONARD BOSWELL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Congressman LEONARD BOSWELL for his 16 years of dedicated service to the people of Iowa's Third Congressional District, and the country.

At the end of this term, the U.S. Congress will bid farewell to one of its great leaders. I have had the good fortune to serve with Congressman BOSWELL on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and as a fellow member of the Blue Dog Coalition. In a Congress that has become infamous for its partisan gridlock, LEONARD has been a stalwart advocate for compromise. He has always understood that on issues related to the well being of our working-class families, the nation's infrastructure, and our men and women in uniform, our responsibilities as elected Representatives must always come before politics.

LEONARD's leadership in this regard has always been a source of inspiration to me. With his departure the U.S. Congress will lose the experience of a public servant who has held elective office for 28 years, a distinguished combat veteran and a true American patriot. His example of hard work and bipartisan compromise should not be lost on the 113th Congress when it convenes next month.

I would like to offer LEONARD and his family my deepest thanks and my best wishes for the future.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in commemorating Congressman LEONARD BOSWELL's tremendous service to the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH E. ROSS

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, our Ranking Member, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of Joseph E. Ross, former Director of the Congressional Research Service. Joe

Ross passed away on November 23, survived by his wife of 66 years, Joan, 8 children, 15 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren. He also leaves behind many friends and colleagues who fondly recall his many years of public service.

Joe was the Director of CRS from 1986 to 1993. Before that he led CRS' American Law Division for 13 years. Prior to his career at CRS, Joe served in the Navy during World War II. Returning from that service, he earned his law degree and entered private practice from 1948–1951. He was called back to active duty, eventually rising to the rank of Captain in the Navy and retiring from the military in 1969. This distinguished military career was followed by 2 years at the Department of Justice and then his 21-year career at CRS which saw him rise from Chief of the American Law Division to eventually lead the agency for over 7 years.

Joe Ross' years as CRS Director saw Congress grapple with the Persian Gulf War, the Iran/Contra investigation, deficit reduction, financial regulatory reform, the Strategic Defense Initiative, multinational trade agreements and early efforts at welfare and health care reform. CRS deployed its staff to assist with these and the many other issues on the legislative agenda and streamlined and modernized its product offerings. Congress celebrated its bicentennial in 1989 and CRS supported and participated in the many events surrounding that anniversary. That year was also CRS' 75th anniversary, an occasion marked by programs on the history of Congress and the Congress of the future.

Under Joe Ross' leadership, CRS became a key player in the Frost-Solomon Task Force. Established by Congress in 1990, the task force provided assistance to emerging democracies in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. CRS helped administer the task force's programs and provided much of the sought after expertise needed to help establish democratic legislatures in those countries. During Joe's tenure as CRS Director, the Service also modernized its technological infrastructure with the introduction of more advanced hardware and software to enhance the products and services CRS was able to provide to Congress and increase the productivity of its staff. CRS staff also benefited from innovative recruitment programs launched during this period to increase the diversity of the CRS workforce.

Joe was active in bar activities throughout his career, serving in several capacities with the Federal Bar Association, including president, and also serving on the governing body of the American Bar Association. After retirement, he was actively involved in providing legal assistance to Habitat for Humanity.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Ross was the epitome of the dedicated public servant. He served his country for over 20 years in the Navy which included involvement in decisive battles of the Pacific theater. He followed that career with service in the Executive Branch as an attorney in the Department of Justice. The United States Congress was then the beneficiary of Joe's second career, over 20 years in leadership positions in the Congressional Research Service, including 7 years as its Director. We are grateful for his dedication to the public good. To his wife, Joan, and his extended family, I extend our deepest sympathies.

HONORING SUPERVISOR KENDALL SMITH OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, my colleague, stalwart community member and outgoing Supervisor Kendall Smith for decades of giving back to Mendocino County.

I first met Kendall when she was a student at Sonoma State University at a graduate class she was taking in Public Administration. She already had a Bachelor of Arts degree from San Jose State University and had been a long time member of the American Association of University Women.

Kendall is also a member of the National Women's Political Caucus of Mendocino County, a group I am proud to say picked me as their last male candidate to endorse, an achievement in no small part supported by Kendall.

As a 32-year resident of the North Coast, Kendall knows the territory. That's why I hired her in 1997 to be a field representative when I was a State Senator. Two years later, when I became a Member of Congress, Kendall continued as my Mendocino County district representative, attending to constituent services, working with all parts of the county and supporting businesses, tribes, environmental groups, nonprofits and government entities in a multitude of ways.

In 2004, when Kendall decided to run for Fourth District Supervisor, I had mixed reactions—pride that she wanted to take that step into the life of an elected representative and sadness that she wouldn't be on my staff. Her record speaks for itself, and we have remained close throughout her eight years on the Board. I was honored to support her appointment by the Secretary of the Interior to the Bureau of Land Management's Northwest California Resource Advisory Council, one of the many boards and associations for which she is a stalwart advocate and member.

Kendall is a model public servant. A dogged researcher and diligent policy maker, she earns her admiration through selfless, hard work. Mister Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we pay tribute to Kendall Smith, a fine legislator, worthy representative and esteemed citizen.

HONORING FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONER JUDITH K. SHUPE

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 13, 2012

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Judy Shupe, a long time Commissioner of Fairfield County, Ohio. After twenty exemplary years of service, Commissioner Shupe will be retiring at the end of this year. Commissioner Shupe first took office on January 2, 1993 and is now serving out the remainder of her fifth term as Commissioner.

Commissioner Shupe has always expressed a passion for public service. Before becoming a Commissioner she served as Clerk of Madison Township where she spent 13 years.